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(54) **NOISE CANCELLER CIRCUIT**

noise of the noise signal is effectively eliminated.

(57) Abstract:

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PURPOSE: To minimize deterioration in sound quality by extracting a noise component for each band, detecting a masking threshold level, and comparing them to eliminate a noise component in excess of the masking threshold level from each band.

CONSTITUTION: The circuit is provided with a conversion circuit 9 converting an input signal into a data on a frequency axis, a band split filter 10 splitting the output of the conversion circuit 9 into plural critical bands, noise component extraction circuits 11₁-11₂₅ and a detection circuit 15 detecting the masking threshold level for each band. Moreover, noise component extraction circuits 12₁-12₂₅ are provided, which compare outputs of the noise component extraction circuits 11₁-11₂₅ and the output of the detection circuit 15 and eliminate the noise component in excess of the output level of the detection circuit 15 from the output of a band split filter 10. Then the noise of the band in excess of the masking threshold level, that is, the noise component recognized as the noise to human ear is eliminated. Thus, the quantizing

